

COWBOYS OF PETROLEUM

NEWSLETTER

Dear Colleagues,

As I conclude my tenure as department head, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and industry partners who have made the Department of Energy and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Wyoming such a dynamic and collaborative community. Leading this department has been a true privilege, and I am proud of what we have accomplished together—advancing impactful research, strengthening industry partnerships, and preparing our students to lead in an ever-changing energy landscape.

Over the years, we have celebrated numerous milestones, from expanding research programs to integrating multidisciplinary approaches across geology, geophysics, chemical engineering, and computing. These achievements reflect the hard work, creativity, and dedication of our community and highlight the department's commitment to innovation, excellence, and real-world impact in the energy sector.

At the same time, I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Soheil Saraji as the new head of the Department of Energy and Petroleum Engineering. Dr. Saraji, the Richard and Marilyn Lynch Non-Endowed Chair in Subsurface Energy and Digital Innovation, brings extensive expertise in subsurface processes, stimulation technologies, and digital innovation in energy research. His vision emphasizes collaboration across disciplines, hands-on student training, and strong engagement with industry partners, ensuring the department continues to lead in energy research and education.

I step down with immense gratitude for the opportunity to serve and for the support and trust that have made my time as department head so meaningful. I am confident that under Dr. Saraji's leadership, the department will continue to grow, innovate, and inspire students and faculty alike. Thank you for being part of this journey, and I look forward to watching the department thrive in the years ahead.



Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Rasouli', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. Vamegh Rasouli

EPE Department Head

LeNorman Endowed Leadership Chair in
Petroleum Engineering

Multidisciplinary Advanced Stimulation Lab (MASL) Grand Opening!

The University of Wyoming celebrated the grand opening of its new Multidisciplinary Advanced Stimulation Laboratory (MASL) on Oct. 10 as part of the university's Energy Day celebration, welcoming energy industry representatives from across the nation for a ribbon-cutting, reception and tour of the facility in the Science Initiative Building. The Multidisciplinary Advanced Stimulation Lab (MASL) is officially named the Richard and Marilyn Lynch Multidisciplinary Advanced Stimulation Lab in recognition of the extraordinary gift from Richard and Marilyn Lynch that will provide excellence in research, teaching, and education in this state-of-the-art facility. The lab enables integrated research and establishes a lasting foundation for multidisciplinary energy research and student training at UW.

Led by UW's Department of Energy and Petroleum Engineering in partnership with the School of Energy Resources, the lab enables integrated research in geomechanics, fluid dynamics and advanced reservoir characterization, bringing together faculty and students from multiple disciplines to tackle pressing subsurface energy challenges. MASL will support research aimed at improving oil and gas recovery, advancing stimulation technologies, and applying artificial intelligence and machine learning to subsurface systems, while providing students with hands-on experience and direct engagement with industry partners and strengthening UW's leadership in energy research.

More on the Grand Opening can be found at: <https://www.uwyo.edu/news/2025/11/new-uw-laboratory-to-address-pressing-challenges-in-energy-industry.html>



Fall 2025 Graduates — Congratulations!



Logan Colwell

Graduated with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering and a minor in Energy Resource Management. Logan will be working for Venator Resources this upcoming year!



Paden Knull

Graduated with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering and Political Science. Beginning in January, he will be pursuing a Master of Engineering in Petroleum Engineering at UW!



Daniel McFadyen

Graduated with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering and minors in Geology and Energy Resource Management. Daniel will be working for Venator Resources this upcoming year!



Samira Dambatta

Graduated with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering!



Mohamed Malki

Graduated with a Ph.D. in Petroleum Engineering!



Ramzi Ali

Graduated with a Ph.D. in Petroleum Engineering!



An Nguyen

Graduated with a Ph.D. in Petroleum Engineering!



**Spring 2026 IAB Banquet and Meeting:
April 16-17, 2026**



Welcome New Department Head – Dr. Soheil Saraji!

We are excited to welcome Dr. Soheil Saraji as the new head of the Department of Energy and Petroleum Engineering. An expert in subsurface processes and digital innovation, Dr. Saraji is dedicated to advancing cutting-edge research, expanding student opportunities, and strengthening industry partnerships. His leadership marks a new chapter of growth and innovation for the department.



Top 5 in 5 Update!

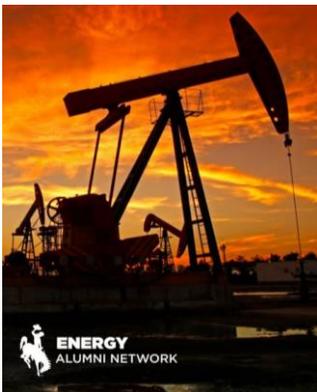
Since September, the 5-5 Initiative has made significant strides. Dean Danny Dale, Doug Cuthbertson and Dr. Soheil Saraji recently visited Edmonton, Canada, to discuss a formal agreement between UW and NAIT. The focus for the second year is to secure funding to hire several PhD students at MASL and involve undergraduate students in research projects. With strong partnerships with SAIT, NAIT, and the continued support of our Industry Advisory Board, we anticipate growth in undergraduate enrollment and remain committed to sustaining this trend.



Petroleum Engineering at UW - Centennial!

Next year will mark 100 years since petroleum engineering has been offered at UW—a remarkable milestone that gives us the chance to reflect on a century of growth, discovery, and community.

While details are still in the works, we are excited to begin thinking about how to celebrate this momentous occasion. Over the coming months, we'll be gathering ideas and planning events that honor our history and look forward to the future.

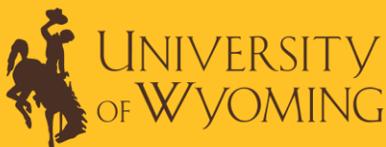


Energy Alumni Network!

The Energy Alumni Network is officially here! If you're passionate about the energy industry and excited to connect with proud Wyoming alumni who share that enthusiasm, this network is for you. This network will give you access to a UW alumni community, UW events, professional networking opportunities, and more!

Ready to join? Tap the link and get connected:

https://gopokes.formstack.com/forms/alumni_network_energy



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